In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) Method for manufacturing sheets of agglomerate material making use of electromagnetic radiofrequency waves having a frequency of less than 300 MHz and comprising, in succession, a first step involving preparation of a mix by mixing together stone materials of predetermined particle size with a binder consisting of organic resins, a second step involving distribution of said mix inside a tray mould so as to form a layer of mix, a third step involving vacuum vibro-compaction in order to obtain a compacted sheet, and a final step involving hardening or catalysis of the binder by means of heating ovens in order to obtain the finished products, characterized in that the said use of electromagnetic radiofrequency waves takes place in an intermediate step ~~involving dielectric preheating of the compacted sheet is introduced~~ between said third vacuum vibro-compaction step and said final hardening step which consists in dielectrically preheating the compacted sheet until it reaches a temperature which is less than 10°C, and preferably less than 5°C, below the temperature at which the catalysis of the binder starts in the subsequent final hardening step.

2. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~said intermediate step involving dielectric preheating of the compacted sheet is performed by means of heating with electromagnetic radiofrequency waves having a wave length frequency of less than 300 MHz~~ the compacted sheet is preheated until it reaches a temperature which is less than 5°C.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that, ~~during the~~ the end of said intermediate preheating step, the compacted sheet reaches a temperature lower than the temperature at which catalysis of the binder starts and

preferably ranging of between 75°C and 78°C.

5. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that it ~~may be~~ is used for a mix which contains granulates of the expanded type.

6. (Currently Amended) Plant for manufacturing sheets of agglomerate material using the method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1 and comprising, in succession, a first station (20) for preparing a mix by mixing a granulate of predetermined particle size with a binder consisting of organic resins, a second station (30) for distributing said mix inside a tray mould (12) so as to form a layer of mix, a third vacuum vibro-compaction station (40) for obtaining a compacted sheet, and a final hardening station (60) comprising at least one heating oven for catalysis of the organic binder so as to obtain the final sheet, characterized in that it also comprises an intermediate station (50) making use of means generating electromagnetic radiofrequency waves at a frequency of less than 300 MHz for ~~dielectric~~ preheating ~~of~~ said compacted sheet, the said intermediate station (50) ~~is~~ being arranged between said third vibro-compaction station (40) and said final hardening station (60).

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) Plant according to Claim ~~7~~ 6, characterized in that said means are adapted to generate electromagnetic waves having a frequency of between 25 and 35 MHz ~~are used~~ in said ~~preheating~~ intermediate station (50).